



## CIB NEWS ARTICLE

International Council for Research and Innovation  
in Building and Construction

Providing a global network for international exchange and cooperation in research and innovation in building and construction, in support of an improved building process and of improved performance of the built environment.

June 2006

### Around the Task Groups and Working Commissions

#### W111 – Usability of Workplaces

### Introducing the New Working Commission

During its meeting in March 2006 in Ankara, the CIB Programme Committee established a new Working Commission W111 on "Usability of Workplaces". W111 will continue with an extended Scope from the work done by former CIB TG51 on "Usability of Workplaces". Prof. Keith Alexander who also was Coordinator of the former TG51, has been appointed the Coordinator of W111.

A News article on the publication of the [Final Report](#) of former TG51 can be found in the section New CIB Publications.

#### Scopes and Objectives

Within the scope of the commission there is a focus on the concept of usability of workplaces, as applied in a range of building types, including commercial buildings and buildings for healthcare and education.

Research themes within this scope include:

- Usability concepts, tools and methods
- Economy, efficiency and effectiveness
- Context, culture, situation, performance, experience.

The commission's objectives are:

- to conduct a series of case studies and associated workshops, involving users, practitioners and researchers in a programme of action research
- to develop concepts of usability for application in practice
- to promote, develop and share methods, processes and techniques for the evaluation of the built environment in use.

#### Work Programme

The following presents the Work plan of the commission for the years 2006-2008:

- further round of collaborative case studies and workshops
- annual symposium to consider and discuss results of usability case studies
- dissemination and publication.

#### Planned Output

- 2006: Case Study Reports and Conference Papers
- 2007: Case Study Reports and Conference Papers
- 2008: Proceedings Usability Symposium
- 2008: Publication Compendium of Case Studies
- 2008: Publication Book on Usability Themes
- 2008: Publication International State-of-the-Art Report on Usability of Workplaces

#### Future Meetings

The first meeting of this new Commission will be a joint CIB W111 - EuroFM Research Workshop on Usability of Workplaces, in conjunction with the 2006 Trondheim International Symposium: Changing User Demands on Buildings - Needs for Lifecycle Planning and Management on 12-14 June 2006.

Additional future meeting include:

- CIB Working Commission Meeting on Usability of Workplaces in Helsinki, Finland in October 2006
- Research Workshop on Usability of Workplaces, in conjunction with the CIB World Building Congress in May 2007.
- Joint CIB W111 - EuroFM Research Workshop on Usability of Workplaces, in conjunction with EFMC 2007 - the 2007 European Facility Management Conference, in June 2007 in Zurich, Switzerland.
- Joint CIB W111 - EuroFM Research Workshop on Usability of Workplaces, in conjunction with EFMC 2008 - the 2008 European Facility Management Conference, in May 2008 in Manchester, United Kingdom.

## External Relations

The Commission will seek to develop active, working relationships with other key groupings and associations directly involved in similar, relevant research, including:

- European Facility Management Network (EuroFM)
- International Facility Management Association (IFMA)
- CoreNet Global
- International Faculty of Facilities Management (IFFM)

## Membership

Members of the Working Commission are appointed representatives of CIB Member Organisations or Individual CIB Members. A condition for such commission membership is the willingness and ability to conduct a case study in the respective commission format and together with industrial partners and host a workshop.

## Introducing the W111 Coordinator: Prof. Keith Alexander



Professor Keith Alexander is Director of the Centre for Facilities Management (CFM) and has a Chair in Facilities Management. He is Associate Head of Academic Enterprise and a member of the School Executive. He is a member of the research Institute for Business and Informatics and of Salford University's 5\* rated Research Centre for Built and Human Environment. Keith has been at the forefront of developments in education, research and practice in Facilities Management for over twenty years.

## Academic Qualifications

BSc (Architectural Studies), 1st Class Hons, Welsh School of Architecture (WSA), University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology (UWIST), 1971;  
BArch, WSA, UWIST, 1973;

### Membership of Professional Bodies

Registered Architect, United Kingdom (ARB), 1975;  
Member Royal Institution of British Architects, 1975 - RIBA;

Certified Facility Manager (CFM), 1995;  
Fellow International Facility Management Association (IFMA), 1998;  
Fellow Chartered Institute of Building, 1998 - FCIQB;

## Additional Information

For additional information about the CIB W111 meetings please contact the Coordinator: Keith Alexander at [k.alexander@salford.ac.uk](mailto:k.alexander@salford.ac.uk).

You can find more information on the activities of CIB W111 at [www.cibworld.nl/website](http://www.cibworld.nl/website) - section "Databases" - database "Commissions" - type W111 in the search field "Commission number".